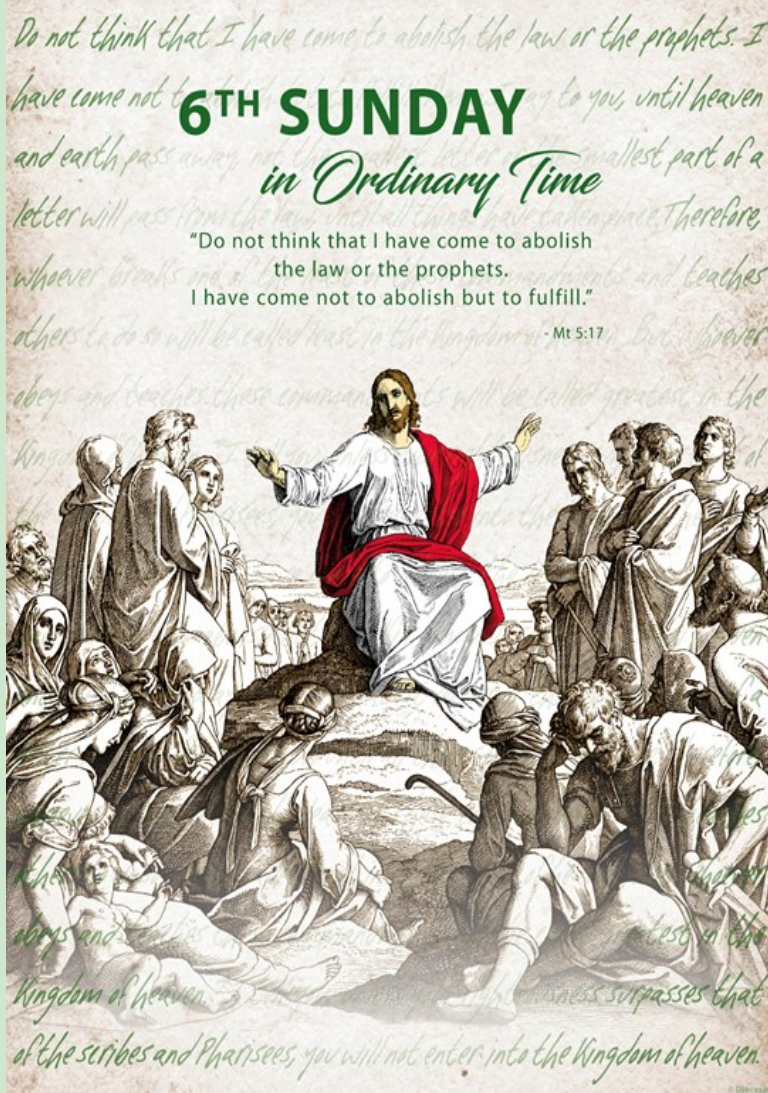


MISSION STATEMENT

We The people of the Whiting/Robertsedale Cluster, are a Catholic Faith Community, ethnically rich, culturally diverse, and one in Faith. Inspired by the unity of the Holy Trinity, we endeavor to share our Faith as disciples of Jesus.



Mass Schedules:

St. Adalbert:

Saturday: 4:30 p.m.

Anticipated Mass

Confessions Saturday:

3:30 — 4:00 p.m.

St. John the Baptist

Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Monday—Friday: 7:00 a.m.

Confessions: Weekdays:

Following the 7:00 a.m. Mass

Confessions

The Thursday before 1st. Friday of each Month
SJB 4:00 — 4:30 p.m.

Sacraments: Please Call St. John Church Office

***Whiting /Robertsedale
Faith Community***

***St. John the Baptist
&***

St. Adalbert

February 16, 2020

Last week's Gospel challenged us to be SALT and LIGHT. In today's Gospel Jesus explains how we accomplish that. Seeing Jesus give his hearers instructions from a mountaintop, brings to mind Moses atop Mt. Horeb, getting the stone tablets, and presenting them to the people. The 10 commandments, when followed, would save the people from self-destruction.

Now, Jesus in a revolutionary stance, proclaims his mission: he has come, not to abolish the law but to fulfill it. Jesus' new law of love propels his hearers a giant step forward. The former "Thou shall not kill" is not enough, "for whoever grows angry with his brother is liable to judgment." (Mt. 5:22)

The 6th commandment forbade adultery, but Jesus teaches, " whoever looks at another with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart." Jesus instructs his hearers and us to look deeper. When we do so, we begin to appreciate the heart of the law. In the end the choice is ours. Will we determine to live in the light, as a source of goodness and love to others, rather than living only for ourselves?

Salt is transformative, and light enables us to see the wisdom of God. Today's Gospel reminds us that interior motives are important. Living in Jesus' light results in righteous living.



ENCOURAGEMENT from Pope Francis

"Hang a crucifix in your home, as a reminder to pray. Resting in prayer is especially important for families. It is in the family that we first learn how to pray. Don't forget: the family that prays together stays together! This is important. There we come to know God, to grow into men and women of faith, to see ourselves as members of God's greater family, the Church."

(from Pope Francis, *Wisdom on Love, Practical Advice for Families*)



INSPIRATION from St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

"When I hear all the pain and suffering caused by idle remarks and unkindness, I think of our Lord, who told the people they should throw a stone at the sinful woman only if they were without sin. All the people went away because they knew that Jesus knew their sins. When we are tempted to speak uncharitably or to bring up someone's past failures, let us hear Jesus say: Throw the stone only if you are free from sin."

(Thirsting for God, Daily Meditations, Mother Teresa)

Saint John the Baptist Church ~ 1849 Lincoln Ave.**MAIN RECTORY NUMBER.....(219) 659-0023****RECTORY FAX NUMBER.....(219) 473-7551****E-Mail: Churchparishoffice@yahoo.com****Website: www.stjohnbap.org****Secretary, Becky Flores..... General Information
bflores@stjohnbap.org**

PASTOR.....Rev. Mark Peres, C.P.P.S. Ext. 116
DEACONS.....Leo Barron & Joseph Manchak
HISPANIC MINISTRY/BULLETIN.....Nora Perez Ext. 105
FAITH FORMATION/YOUTH MINISTRY.....Jamie Sandona Ext. 106
ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT.....Margaret Saliga (219) 659-4138
MARRIAGE PREPARATION.....(219) 659-0023

ST. JOHN SCHOOL ~ Main Number..... (219) 659-3042
Principal.....Jessica Gonzalez Ext. 304
School Secretary , Jeanine JonesGeneral Information
Banquet and Hall Rental.....Cathy Bryan 659-3041
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL.....(219) 659-1073

BULLETIN ARTICLES: nperez@stjohnbap.org**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

Mon., Feb. 17: PRESIDENT'S DAY
7:00 p.m. SJB ~ RCIA
Tues., Feb. 18: 11:00 a.m. Senior Cen. Guest Speaker, Frank Vargo
6:30 p.m. SJB ~ Bible Study/Bishop Barron Series
Wed., Feb. 19: 11:00 a.m. Lunch with Friends
3:00 p.m. SJB ~ PHYRE MINISTRY/Youth Room
Thurs., Feb. 20: 9-3:00 p.m. Senior Center
3:00 p.m. SJB ~ RCIC /Reconciliation/Cafeteria
3:05 p.m. SJB ~ Young Rembrandts/Cafeteria
6:00 p.m. SJB ~ School Board/Founders Room
6:30 p.m. SJB ~ Choir Practice
Fri., Feb. 21: 5:00-11:00 p.m. SJB ~ WINTERFEST
Sat., Feb. 22: 3:30 p.m. ST. AL'S ~ CONFESSIONS
Noon-11:00 p.m. SJB ~ WINTERFEST
Sun., Feb. 23: 9:00 a.m. SJB ~ NO Faith Formation Classes
Noon-10:00 p.m. SJB ~ WINTERFEST

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL**(Meets 3rd. Thursday of the Month)**

Fr. Mark Peres, Candi Gard, Jessica Gonzalez, Sara W. Hyslop, Beth Jerzyk, Nick Padilla, Jenifer Toth.

RCIA UPDATE

As we look to the Lenten Season within our Parish Community, please include **Casey Gates and Stephanie Zandy** in your daily prayers. They will be presented to Bishop McClory during the Rite of Election at Holy Angels Cathedral on March 1st. As they continue their final sessions of preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation, to be conferred at the Easter Vigil, your continuing prayers and support for Casey and Stephanie are greatly appreciated.

HOMEBOUND NOTICE

If you can no longer attend church on Sundays, you are welcome to receive Holy Communion from a Eucharistic Minister to the Homebound each Sunday morning. Call the St. John rectory during business hours M-F 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to give your request along with your name, phone #, and address. We look forward to accommodating your request.

WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY**IN LOVING MEMORY****February 17: Monday ~ The Seven Holy Founders of the
Servite Order**

7:00 a.m. † Raymond Cortazar by Family

February 18: Tuesday in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m. † Ann M. Klochan by St. John Rosary Society

February 19: Wednesday ~ in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m. † Casimir & Grace Biedron by Family

February 20: Thursday ~ in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m. † Mary Therese Dybel

8:30 a.m. † Mary J. Mores by Richard M. Mores

**February 21: Friday ~ St. Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor of the
Church**

7:00 a.m. † Julie Geffert by Family & Friends

February 22: Saturday ~ The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle(SA) 4:30 p.m. † Deceased members of the Blasko Family by
John & Lucille Blasko**February 23: SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

8:00 a.m. † W/R Catholic Community

10:30 a.m. † Angela Lucchesi by Dave & Kathy Johnson

02/09/2020**St. John**

Regular Collection.....\$ 6, 374.76

Grade School.....33.00

High School.....6.00

Total.....\$6,413.76

St. Adalbert

\$ 1,397.00

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL CAMPAIGN FOR 2019

	GOAL	PLEDGES	PAID	Balance Due
SA	\$ 8,183.00	\$ 3,495.00	\$3,495.00	\$4,688.00
SJB	\$ 60,573.00	\$54,752.00	\$54,052.00	\$6,521.00

**BIBLE STUDY ~ CALL OUT**

You are invited to join the conversation with the **2020 Tuesday Evening Bible Study Group, 6:30-8:00 p.m.** in the St. John the Baptist Catholic School Founders Room. Using Bishop Robert Barron's *Pivotal Players* series, which highlights the work of both modern and past evangelists, we will come to a deeper appreciation for God's presence in our daily lives. **Questions, phone Margaret Saliga, facilitator, 219-659-4138.**

LENT 2020

A generous donor has purchased **Lenten Gospel Reflections** by Bishop Robert Barron for your Lenten spiritual journey. The booklets are available at the doors of St. Adalbert and St John the Baptist churches. May these booklets help us grow in our faith in order to share that faith with others.

OLD PALMS ~ Please deposit your retired palms in the containers provided at the church exits.

W/R CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

On **Saturday, March 14th** from **8:45-11:30 a.m.** Rev. Jerry Schweitzer will present a **Morning of Reflection** on the writings of St. Paul as recorded in the 2nd reading for each of the 2020 Lenten Sundays. Hosted by the Faith Enrichment Committee, the Lenten Morning of Reflection will be held at **St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Mural Room** (lower level of the school, 1844 Lincoln Ave.). While there is no charge, your advance registration is appreciated. Call Margaret Saliga, 219-659-4138. or email: dominicanmom@att.net



THE 99 MASTERCLASS

We want to invite you to participate in something exciting that is happening at St. John the Baptist. **The 99 Masterclass** is designed to help parishes grow toward a culture of evangelization. You are receiving this invitation because of your leadership and service in our Catholic Community. **The 99 Masterclass** will help you grow in your vision and ministry—and it will help our entire community answer the urgent call to reach out to those in the pews and beyond.

Join us on **Lenten Tuesday evenings 6:30-8:30, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, and April 14 at the SJB Mural Room** as we begin this important journey. For more information and to register please contact facilitator, Margaret Saliga, 219-659-4138 dominicanmom@att.net

THE ST. JOHN ADULT CHOIR

Like to sing? The St. John Adult Choir is looking for members. The Choir **rehearses on Thursday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:00pm weekly and most often sing the 10:30am Sunday Mass.** We do sing mostly 4 part arrangements (soprano, alto, tenor, bass). Now would be a great time to join as we will be going into the Lent/Easter season. **For further information, contact Brian Marciniak, director at (312) 810-0400.**



Indiana State Representative Matt Pierce (D) introduced House Bill 1020 Jan. 7, which aims to legalize assisted suicide. Assisted suicide is currently legal in nine U.S. states and in the District of Columbia.

Saturday February 29, 12 p.m.-4 p.m. St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Parish has orga-

nized an afternoon luncheon with public educator and lobbyist Alex Schadenberg, founder and executive director of the **Euthanasia Prevention Coalition**, to educate our community about euthanasia and assisted suicide. He will also raise awareness about the strategies used by pro-euthanasia lobbyists to grow a support base and legalize this form of murder in the medical profession and the ways in which pro-life supporters can counter these tactics. **The price for the luncheon is \$10 and includes a screening of the documentary "Fatal Flaws."** To register for the luncheon, please go to stmarywhiting.org/saturdayseries.



ALL HANDS ON DECK

Western Winter Fest is approaching! Throughout the week of February 17th, the festival committees will be setting up, prepping, preparing, and decorating for the festival weekend. If you have an hour or two and would like to help, please contact Festival Chairpersons – Kirsten Lund, kh1478@hotmail.com, 773-206-2412, Candi Gard candi.gard@gmail.com, 219-201-6287, or the school office, 659-3042.

FOOD & DRINK

What would a festival be without food & drink? Each day of the festival food of all kinds (pizza, beef sandwiches, walking tacos, etc.) will be served daily. Each evening, a specialty dinner will be provided at a small cost.

Friday night – Traditional Mexican Dinner!

Saturday night - New this year....Chuck wagon! Pulled pork, pulled chicken, baked beans. Mosey on over to the Chuck wagon Saturday evening!

Sunday Afternoon – Slovak Dinner!

Sunday Evening – Last Minute Grill!

As always, these dinners take a team effort, and if you are interested in helping support these dinners, by donating food, water, soda, or by helping in the kitchen, cooking or washing dishes, please reach out to Festival Chairpersons – Kirsten Lund, keh1478@hotmail.com, 773-206-2412, Candi Gard candi.gard@gmail.com, 219-201-6287 or the school office, 659-3042.

TALENT SHOW

If you are available, we encourage to support the St. John students and see all the talents they have in the annual Talent Show on Saturday, 2/22 at 2:00pm! Special guests will be performing as well!

We're ONLINE!

Festival information, photos, & schedules can be found on the Festival Facebook Page. <https://www.facebook.com/sjbfest/>

NIGHTLY LIVE MUSIC

Each evening we are showcasing live music!

Friday Night – Featuring our very own, Mr. George Buck & Friends!

Saturday Night – The Bed Bugs – They brought the music last year, and we invited them back!

Sunday Night – Dueling Pianos with our very own, Mr. David Boban & Friends. Come request some fun music and see who can play it better!

SILENT AUCTION

We are still in need of the following items for the Silent Auction: Minecraft, Harry Potter, Disney Chocolate Sports Tickets (Baseball, Basketball, Hockey, Football)

RAFFLE TICKETS

Still available for purchase prior and during the festival. Grand prize drawing will be held on Sunday, 2/23 @ 9:00pm!

BINGO!

Saturday, 1-3p & Sunday 3-5p, we are featuring BINGO with a twist. Can you win Bingo in 6 numbers? If so, you can win a special prize.

PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**SALT AND LIGHT – PART TWO**

Works of mercy can be directed not only toward the needs of the body (corporal works), but to the needs of the soul as well. These works of mercy, other ways of being “salt and light,” that we tend to forget are called the **Spiritual Works of Mercy**. They address the most serious form of poverty of all, the poverty of the spirit: a poverty that can drain a life of all energy, joy and sense of purpose, the one kind of poverty that can last forever.

The human spirit longs for the nourishment of truth, goodness, and beauty if it is to be healthy and strong and prepared for the life to come. To accomplish this longing, the Church calls us, the members of its Mystical body, to reach out to those in need of spiritual support and engage in the spiritual works of mercy: admonish sinners, instruct the uninformed, counsel the doubtful, comfort the sorrowful, be patient with those in error, forgive offenses, and pray for the living and the dead.

People admire the Church when it engages in the corporal works of mercy: hospitals, jail ministries, food kitchens, and various kinds of outreach. But when the Church talks about conversion, opening lives to the truth of Christ, there the Church can face hostility. There are many physical needs people have. But, many more people are desperately in need of the spiritual works of mercy.

It is not enough to say, “I’ll help the parish priest, the Pope or others to be salt and light.” Every follower of Jesus is called to be salt and light. It doesn’t require a generous checkbook but a generous soul.

The Lord calls us to be salt and light to our world, to light up consciences, minds, and lives through both the corporal and the spiritual works of mercy.

(Parts taken from a Homily by S. Joseph Krempa)

**MARIAN THEATRE GUILD**

Marian Theatre Guild announces auditions for its spring comedy, “Southern Fried Funeral” directed by Jayma Kay Emerson.

Auditions will be held on **Monday, February 17 at 7:30pm in Marian Memorial Auditorium. (either 119th St. entrance or the stage door off of the**

school parking lot). Needed are six adult women and 5 adult men of varying ages. We are always in need of stage people (carpenters, painters, seamstresses, box office, ushers etc.) , stop in and say hello during auditions so we can contact you when needed. **Production dates are April, 18, 19, 25 & 26. For further information or questions contact Marty Dybel at (219) 659-2782.**



FOREVER BLUE and GOLD PLEASE consider helping us... **Forever Blue and Gold** is collecting **Coke Products Rebates**. The rebates are found in twist off caps of Coke Products and on the inside of 12 and 24 count cases. The rebates in the cartons are found near the opening

perforation. There is a rectangle with a keyed number on it. That rectangle is what we need. Money redeemed goes directly to St. John School for various student projects. Drop them off in the back of church in the BOX TOP containers or send them to school. FB & G thanks you for your help with this simple project.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Winter Fest is one week away and I am so excited to see everything come together and experience my first ever Winter Fest. There are so many hours and hard work that goes into making the Winter Fest a success; it has been so awesome to be a part of this process. The parents and parishioners who come together to create this weekend of fun and community is truly wonderful to witness. There are not many schools who have the parent and community involvement we have here at St. John the Baptist. We are truly blessed. Another huge part of our success and positive culture as a school has been our HSA. Our parents involved in HSA put in endless extra hours to ensure that students and teachers are having a great school experience. Most recently the HSA funded our student game show for Catholic Schools Week as well as our ice cream social. I know they are busy planning the rest of the year activities, and we are so excited to see what they do next. In addition to all of the excitement for Winter Fest, the teachers and students have been busy in the classroom learning and building relationships. 3rd quarter progress reports will be going out this week. Everyday, when I walk into the classroom, I am amazed with how much the students have learned. In addition to their intellectual abilities the students have also matured and grown physically. It is such a blessing to witness their mental and physical growth as well as to witness their relationship with Christ growing deeper and deeper everyday.



Shop at Strack & Van Til
Send your store receipts to SJB!

By submitting your Strack's receipts, you can help our students to earn valuable educational materials& equipment. It's easy. Submit your receipts at the rectory drop box or in the weekly collection soon. **(ends March 2020)**

GRATEFUL SENIORS ENJOY FEBRUARY FUN

Offset the winter blahs with the Tues. & Thurs. 10:00 a.m. chair exercise. Meet some happy hearts, who like to converse; play cards & bunco each Tues. & Thurs. at noon; learn new techniques with “Simply Stitching” every Thurs. from 1:00-3:00, and/or “Simply Planning” on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The on-going puzzle construction always presents a challenge. Each activity seems to ignite sparks of joy and enthusiasm among the participants.

Tuesday, Feb. 18, 11:00, Mr. Frank Vargo will speak about the Whiting-Robertsdale Historical Society. You are invited and always most welcome to come and experience the friends and fun at the Senior Center at Pulaski Park.

LUNCH WITH FRIENDS

A tasty treat awaits participants each **Wednesday, from 11:00 am to 1:00 p.m.** as young and older gather to share a meal, prepared by local church members and friends at **St. Mary's Byzantine Hall** located behind the church at **2002 Davidson Place**. The group, which is now in its 4th year of service, offers a variety of meals from soup to salad to subs, pizza bread, halupky, Chicago dogs, breakfast for lunch and so much more. Each week offers a delicious surprise, as visitors and regulars return to enjoy lunching together. You are always welcome to come on your own or bring a friend to enjoy good food and fellowship. We hope to see you soon.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

B: Eleanor Biel, Steve B., Al & Dot Baker, Joseph Bibat, Betty Bonchik, Noel Bubala

C: Ben Cassoday, Jim Campbell, Abigail Coates, Rebecca Coates, Dorothy Chovan, Nancy Coleman, Olivia Crinion, Lavonne Curington, Jeannine Cusson, Sharon Cusson

D: Gloria Demeter

F: Jeanine Faulkner, Thomas Federenko, Judy Fernald, Audrey Filipek, George Fitzak, Malia Fortunak, Joseph Fortunak

G: Andrea Gaynor

H: H. Haas, Debra Henderson, Kingston M. Hensley, Dennis and Peggy Hyde

J:

K: Gloria A. Kaminsky, Leonard Kaminski, Gerry Kasarda, Ryan Keelan, Barbara J. Korba, Corky Kuipers

L: Lenore Lazur, Anita Le Claire, Les Le Claire, Donna Lewandowski

M: Adeline Matalik, Edward Matalik, Kristi Matalik, Mary Madejewski, Frank Matlon, Ginny McHale, Jerilyn Miller, Larry Milkowski, Toni Milkowski, Mary Murzyn, Mimi Murzyn

N: Ann Novotney

O: Bob Oliver

P: Willie Parlor, Joan Peters, Virginia Piljak, Mary Pupilava

Q: Leonardo Quiroz

R: Kathleen Radloff, David Reyes, Delia M. Reyes, Joel Rivera, Tim Ripee, Ed. Roszkowski, Kay Rosinski, Linda Rokosz, Joyce Rybicki

S: Arthur Salinas Jr., Armando Sanchez, S. Scivinsky, Robert & Phyllis Samano, Collette Santay, Aaron Smith, Deanna Stolarz, K. Smith, R. Smith, S. Stimac, Jack Strisko, Michael J. Swentko, Suzanne M. Swentko

T: Nancy Teles, Sean Tennant, James Toth, Geraldine Tumidalsky

V:

W: Terry W., Phil Wetnight, Marjorie Wohrle

Z:



9292 Broadway, Merrillville, IN 46410

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SHOW SUPPORT FOR CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS
THROUGH THE NORTHWEST INDIANA
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“Eye has not seen, and ear has not heard,
what God has prepared for those who love him.”

(I Corinthians 2:9)



B: Matt Barbetta, Sean Bowman, **C:** Christina Campra, Sean Coleman, **F:** Victoria Franco, **G:** Larry Gazafy, Matthew Geffert, John Gervais, Gerardo Gonzalez, James Grunhard Jr., **H:** Alex Gonzalo Hernandez, Elliot Hlavaty, Matthew Hlavaty, **J:** Justin Jansky, **K:** Thomas M.

Kaminsky, Keith Kennedy, Jeff Klobucar, Jason Koscielski, Jeffery Koval, Mark Koval, **M:** Walter Malenki, Randall McAllister, Mike McCay, Hugh A. McNinch, Philip Mlynarski, Derek Monks, **N:** David Novotney, **O:** Zack O'Drobinak, Nicholas Okamura, Justus Oliver, Mark Opachan, **P:** Kenneth Petkunas, Thomas Pupilava Jr., **R:** Robert Rodriguez, **S:** Antonio Salas, Eric Schaufele, Elliott Schultz, Natalie Serna, John Starzyk Jr, Alex Supergan, Jason Sutton, Szewczyk, **T:** Stephen Taylor, Jeffrey Thormeyer, Christopher Trojnar, **V:** Samuel Valdyke, **W:** Ray Walsh.

Marriage Date Night, February 28, 2020

Couples wishing to deepen their relationship and have great evening together are invited to attend the Marriage Date Night.

Included is a superb meal, great speakers, and time to socialize with other Catholic married couples.

When: Friday, February 28, 2020

Location: Don Quijote Restaurant

119 E. Lincolnway, Valparaiso, IN.

Time: 5:45 pm – Cash bar ~ Dinner: 630 pm.

7:30 pm – Turning Water into Wine

“With joy you will draw water” (Isaiah 12:3)

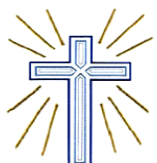
Sean and Stacy will share some thoughts on the wedding feast at Cana, and real life lessons for our marriages and families”

Cost: \$65.00 per couple.

For more information contact: Rosanne Kouris at 219-769-9292 or rkouris@dcgary.org

Northwest Indiana Rachel's Vineyard Retreats
March 6-8 and October 23-25, 2020

Rachel's Vineyard is a safe place to renew, rebuild, and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreats offer you a supportive, confidential, and non-judgmental environment where women and men can express and reconcile painful post-abortion emotions to begin the process of restoration, renewal, and healing. To register call 219-552-2944 or email nwinrv@outlook.com All inquiries are completely confidential.



REST IN PEACE

Ann M. Klochan

Rest In Peace